





and there can be no doubt that mercy will be shewn to any who may be unfortunate enough to their hands. The sense of expressed repeatedly by Mr which has often been represented, now appears to have been well founded; and it is a subject of the American *Corsets* will be at the scene of time we hope, to afford the protection to the foreign resi- settlement.

#### H MUNICIPAL REPORT.

Report to be submitted to-day to the powers on the French Concession is interest and speaks well for the which have been taken by the pro- committee to conduct the affairs nicipality in a satisfactory man- amount of the Expenditure has, a sum, been that which was at the meeting of Oct. 19, leaving, a balance in hand of Tls. on the 31st March.

at the Court of the American General, Messrs Wainwright & declared bankrupt, no opposition on the part of the creditors. & Co. have been appointed

the within the memory of many time of the capture of Nanking seal used by the Taiping and sent to Peking by fan. If we recollect rightly, was made of the matter in *Gazette*, but the bauble was regarded as a very valuable and in- nio. Much excitement has been on the official circles at Peking of this seal which had been safety under the charge of one of scollars. The thief, although in itself, is matter for genuine course no chance exists of re- seal in its former condition, one of the most interesting reflec- tion has been lost.

#### SPORTING.

Cup was won yesterday by & *Grimaldi* came in second but behind, having fallen and lost in the second round; and two Scratch Races were got cards, one of which was won by

#### TEETER RIFLE MEETING.

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weather with smooth sea; saw an English man-of-war off Amoy, bound north, also ship *Wampou*, at the Light ship, arrived at Shanghai 8 P.M. on the 8th.

*Kiungs*, American steamer, left Ningpo 5.10 P.M., on 8th, passed *Express* 11.35 P.M. off Gutzlaff; experienced southerly breezes and fine weather, arrived at Shanghai 6 A.M., on 9th. Reports no light of the Wood-swing wreck.

*Guerjar*, French barque, left Takow, Formosa, April 11th, experienced moderate N.E. breezes with fine weather, latterly thick fog; got on shore on the North Bank, on 4th May, was towed off by the *Hercules* on 9th, and arrived at Shanghai 11 A.M. same day. Cargo, Sugar; Consignee Vancouver.

May 11th 1866.

British steamer *Express*, May 9th, 5 P.M. left Ningpo; Hamburg barque *Perle* in port from Taku; 10.55 P.M., passed Hen and Chickens; 11.30 P.M., passed steamer *Kiungs*. 10th, 4.45 A.M., saw a sunken junk bearing E. by S. S. from No. 8 Buoy, distant 1 mile. Fine weather during the passage; arrived 6.40 A.M. yesterday.

*Yuen-tze-fu*, British steamer, left Tientsin 8 A.M., May 5th, arrived Taku 3.30 P.M., passed *Nanking* 3 P.M. on 6th, anchored at Chefoo 4 P.M., and left 11 A.M. on 7th. *Ta-pa-ko* left at 11.30 A.M. for Hongkong, passed *Yeddo* 2.20 P.M., bound up, arrived at the Light ship midnight of the 9th, having experienced strong head winds, thick weather and rough sea all through; arrived at Shanghai, 9.30 A.M., yesterday. The *City of Aberdeen*, we are given to understand, will proceed to Foochow to load with new tea; she is a very handsome clipper built ship, and has excellent accommodation for a few passengers. — *Shanghai Recorder*.

#### IN H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

May 5th, 1866.

Before Sir E. HORNBY,  
Chief Judge.

(From the "Shanghai Recorder.")

In RE THE TRUSTEES OF THE ESTATES OF A. CAMPBELL AND D. FLETCHER, AND THE BANK OF INDIA.

MESSRS POLLARD, Q.C. and MYBURGH  
FOR THE TRUSTEES OF THE ESTATES OF A. CAMPBELL AND D. FLETCHER.

MESSRS RENNIE AND LAWRENCE FOR THE BANK OF INDIA.

We learn the Steam-tug *Titan* has been chartered to tow the *Highflyer* to Hankow, where she is going to load with new tea. H. L. E. M. Corvette *Isomvord* has come into port to-day, with the Russian Admiral on board.

May 12th 1866.

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chief places through which communication has been carried on. It has witnessed the arrival of the high-sterne'd galleons of Portugal and Spain bringing with them the Jesuits who finally caused the seclusion of the country ; it has witnessed the friendly and unrestricted, intercourse which once existed between the great nations of the West, and the government of Japan ; it probably witnessed the departure of the princes who went to Europe to pay obeisance to Pope Gregory XIII., and we know that even while these same men were at the Vatican the Imperial despot Tyco Sama fearing for the safety of his temporal power, was converting the neighbourhood of Nagasaki into a scene of Christian Martyrdom. And when with a merciless hand he had crushed the Christian religion then gaining ground in the kingdom, he, after the expulsion of the foreigners, gave to the Dutch only the right of trading with Japan. It is said that when the Imperial edict was passed forbidding any but natives of the country to remain on Japanese soil, he was asked what the shape of the ground to be given to the merchants should be, and contemptuously flinging out his fan, he intimated his will that it should be built in that form. And so on an artificial island, connected with the shore by a bridge and watched by an insolent guard, who prevented all communication with the neighbourhood except in rare instances and at an exorbitant expense, the few merchants who had the permission to do so lived a life the monotony of which was only broken when once a year the two ships which then represented the export trade of Japan sailed into the bay of Nagasaki. So that the place possesses interest from its association with the past policy of the Tycoon even more than from its other attractions of scenery and climate, and indeed it may be looked on as the only city in Japan whose history is in any way linked with that of the Western civilizations. One great advantage possessed by it is its accessibility, and to visitors from China whose stay

fathoms at the entrance to three off the native city. Between our anchorage and Pappenberg are five batteries on various points mounting in all about seventy guns, and at the head of the Harbour is another mounting eight guns. Hence the fire that could be brought on any particular point would be fierce enough while it lasted, but as the Japanese batteries are simply guns mounted without any protection to the gunners there would be but little difficulty in most cases in driving them from their position. At the inner end of the harbour on a small comparatively level situation is the native city extending well round the top of the little bay at the base of a lofty hill. And next to it further seaward is situated the small Buid and houses of the European residents. Immediately in front of the native city is the celebrated island of Des-sima, a low fan shaped piece of ground protected by a sea wall, and having a row of Dutch looking houses facing the sea, behind which is a single street separating the business-houses from the places of residence in front. Opposite the settlement and on the left or Northern side of the Harbour is the factory of Acunorá where the Japanese employ European workmen, and where they execute the necessary repairs for their steam fleet, and close to it is the Russian settlement or concession, but as yet they seem to have made, but little use of it, save as a sanitarium for the sick landed from their vessels of war. On either side almost from the water's edge the hills rise in steep slopes covered with luxuriant vegetation and here and there forming picturesque little valleys which winding inland give one peeps of the never ending ranges of hill and valley, bays and harbours of this most charming place, while far in the distance at the extreme head of the harbour rises the Comprera Hill, and on the left of the hill behind the town a shallow river meanders through a rich fertile plain bounded by a picturesque range of low hills.

rented their departure ; the blame of this rests with the home authorities who are precise in their instructions to " save money"—Not " save life," " save credit " or " save needless suffering " but " save the dollars." The person responsible for such orders outdoes the down-easter who when informed his mother was dead exclaimed " Jerusalem—I'd rather have lost a dollar," for in actual fact the dollars are preferred to the lives of British soldiers. The attempts to effect an economical arrangement for the transport of the regiments hence, &c. have resulted in the *Far East* and *White Alder* being chartered for a sum of £27,000 one-half of which is chargeable to the colony. It is now reported that small pox has broken out on board the former vessel, and that her departure may thus be indefinitely delayed. Had but common sense been displayed in deciding upon the destination of the regiment when their removal became necessary they would in all probability have long ago left Hongkong. It is impossible to consider the action which has been taken respecting the Hongkong garrison, without feeling indignant at the blunders of those who have shewn themselves so culpably indifferent to the lives of our men. That Colonel North's motion will result in a reprimand to some department is possible, but that any individuals will undergo the slightest personal inconvenience for (to speak mildly) errors of judgement so serious that they "become crimes, is the height of improbability.

some investigation being made into this subject is sufficiently obvious, but the qualifications necessary for conducting such an enquiry in a thoroughly satisfactory manner, could hardly be expected from those whose province is more peculiarly the diseases to which mankind are liable under certain given conditions of temperature, mode of life, &c. We are well aware that the scientific attainments of one at least of these gentlemen are sufficiently high to render any remarks he may offer on such a subject of considerable value, but with so extensive a field of enquiry as that before the commission it is quite possible that they may decline to enter into the merits of the chemico-geological problem which now waits solution at the hands of the scientific residents of Hongkong.

Vague statements have been made by the press both in China and England as to the unhealthiness of a soil of which the chief constituent is disintegrated granite, but no reasons have been advanced in proof of the theory. That sickness has extensively prevailed in the neighbourhood of all sites in and about Hongkong where the earth has been newly disturbed is patent fact; but beyond stating the result, no one has as yet apparently made any progress in determining the causes which lead to so alarming an increase of mortality. By some it is held that by the exposure of a fresh surface to atmospheric influence a noxious gas or malaria is generated, which when diffused through the air

constructed with tolerably easy gradients, residents will be induced to purchase land for building purposes at Deep Water and Surprise Bays, which would reimburse government for the cost of the road. This may be set down as decidedly doubtful, for though there is a very good road to Pokfoolum, and plenty of available building ground, there is no *very* great competition for lots in that part of the island, although it is a healthy situation. The fact is that the difficulty lies in the distance from the town, and we are afraid that it is one which will always exist, for it is hardly to be supposed that people will live an hour's travel from their offices. Moreover, with all our vaunted British laws we have failed to make this little island, which might be as secure in every respect as Gibraltar, even ordinarily safe as regards life and property. When people are knocked down in Caine Road in daylight, and bands of russians can land every morning from the Canton Steam boat, and take their head quarters in the mat sheds covering the hills above the town, it is most premature to talk of country residences on the south side of the Island.

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Government Gazette of Saturday

In the Government Gazette of Saturday appears the report of a sanitary commission which has reported on the causes &c. of the sickness which prevailed among the Chinese prisoners in the Gaol last summer

# RUSSIAN POLICY IN EASTERN ASIA. (*Ball, Macmillan & Co.*)

(*Pall Mall Gazette.*)

The good name of the military officials at Hongkong is so much involved in this question, that it is to be hoped that they will afford the fullest aid in its investigation. Flying rumours are abroad that in the parliamentary correspondence already published several despatches having a most important bearing on the circumstances connected with the mortality in the 11th Regiment are missing. Whether wilfully suppressed or not is as yet un-

predisposes residents to diseases of a febrile type; while others again deny the existence of any pernicious element in the soil itself and refer the evil effects consequent on a disturbance of the soil to the simple fact that a greater egress is thereby afforded to deadly malaria, which is constantly being evolved from the surface of all soil in countries and islands existing under the same geographical conditions as Hongkong and Kowloon.

ches are crowded together under the same roof, pigs, goats, and fowls holding supreme sway over the reeking alleys and passages, the drainage consisting of the gutters which the liquid filth forms for it-

self, in finding its way down the hill. This is no overdrawn picture, for to gain a full appreciation of the scene depicted, it is simply necessary to walk along the road leading over the lower tank in Taiping-shan, taking the turning known as Tauk Lane, and a few steps will lead to the loathsome and fever haunted spot, past which flows a zig zag stream of hideous and putrid black mud, running down the hill, some of the crazy wooden sheds actually overhanging this Lethean stream. There is not the slightest pretence of any drainage, and garbage and filth of every description are invariably thrown anywhere and everywhere. Infinitely more than half the people in Hongkong do not actually know that such places exist. Those who have residences in the Caine and Robinson roads, perhaps congratulate themselves in having secured the healthiest part of the town for the sites of their villas and bungalows, but are every now and then surprised at insidious little attacks of fever &c., which they cannot account for, but which can fairly be

laid to the charge of the pestiferous atmosphere from Taipingshan and Western Victoria generally, which more especially when there is no wind, or when the wind is from the northward causes the whole of the pestilential vapours to set up the hill.

1. *Leucosia* (Leucosia) *leucosia* (L.) (Fig. 1)

*(From the "Evening Mail.")*

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(From the "*Evening Mail*.")

constructed with tolerably easy gradients, residents will be induced to purchase land for building purposes at Deep Water and Surprise Bays, which would reimburse government for the cost of the road. This may be set down as decidedly doubtful, for though there is a very good road to Pokfoolum, and plenty of available building ground, there is no very great competition for lots in that part of the island, although it is a healthy situation. The fact is that the difficulty lies in the distance from the town, and we are afraid that it is one which will always exist, for it is hardly to be supposed that people will live an hour's travel from their offices. Moreover, with all our vaunted British laws we have failed to make this little island, which might be as secure in every respect as Gibraltar, even ordinarily safe as regards life and property. When people are knocked down in Caine Road in daylight, and bands of russians can land every morning from the Canton Steam boat, and make their head quarters in the mat sheds covering the hills above the town, it is most premature to talk of country residences on the south side of the Island.

(From the "Evening Mail.")

In the Government Gazette of Saturday appears the report of a sanitary commission which has reported on the causes &c. of the sickness which prevailed among the Chinese prisoners in the Gaol last summer and in the parts of the town occupied solely by the lowest order of Chinese. In this report strong emphasis is laid on the necessity of thoroughly reforming the whole Chinese portion of the city, both as regards drains, roads and buildings.—The evidence of the Inspector of Nuisances, and the report itself goes to prove that a large area of ground in the Western part of the town is covered with squalid buildings, and matsheds, where scores of filthy wretches are crowded together under the same roof, pigs, goats, and fowls holding supreme sway over the reeking alleys and passages, the drainage consisting of the gutters which the liquid filth forms for itself, in finding its way down the hill. This is no overdrawn picture, for to gain a full appreciation of the scene depicted, it is simply necessary to walk along the road leading over the lower tank in Taiping-shan taking the turning known as Tank Lane, and a few steps will lead to the loathsome and fever haunted spot, past which flows a zig zag stream of hideous and putrid black mud, running down the hill, some of the crazy woodensheds actually overhanging this Lethal stream. There is not the slightest pretence of any drainage, and garbage and filth of every description are invariably thrown anywhere and everywhere. Infinitely more than half the people in Hongkong do not actually know that such places exist. Those who have residences in the Caine and Robinson roads, perhaps congratulate themselves in having secured the healthiest part of the town for the sites of their villas and bungalows, but are every now and then surprised at insidious little attacks of fever &c., which they cannot account for, but which can fairly be laid to the charge of the pestiferous atmosphere from Taiping-shan and Western Victoria generally, which more especially when there is no wind, or when the wind is from the northward causes the whole of the pestilential vapours to set up the hill.

We hear a great deal about the miasma from the soil, exhalations from disintegrated granite, and of other abstruse problems requiring solution with respect to the geology of the island; but would it not be better to begin nearer home, and attempt the analysis of the malaria arising from decaying vegetable and animal matter, and the evils which arise from bad drainage, or rather no drainage at all? It appears that people are too hard upon the Inspector of Nuisances; for if his evidence is reliable, which there is no reason to doubt, the filthy wretches, who populate the Alsacia of Hongkong, are so leniently dealt with at the Police Court, when brought up by the Inspector, that the sanitary state of the houses and lanes, is worse than it was some time ago. This very cheering after the rose colored report which appears yearly in the Gazette, and which continually asserts the improved and improving sanitary condition of the Island; we through all the official windings and doublings of "reports" "committees" and "commissions" at last "catch our hare," as Mrs Glass says, and find that nearly one half of the town, instead of advancing in the scale of salubri-

—MAY 17, 1866.

actually retrograding. It is possible to overrule the deleterious emanations which exude the filth and impurities in the air of the town, have upon the residents in the eastern half

What is it that makes us feverish when we get up in the morning? It is the wind in the night? It isn't malarial from the soil, but of the miasma from Tai- sun and pollution. On the

we know the invigorating effect of the easterly wind, which is usually to be attributed to the wind passing over Western We believe that the Governor has given his serious attention to the generation of the St Giles of Russia, and although some "rested in" may be disturbed, and people may be called to protest whom few dream of any stake in the wretched tenements, which ought to be the ground, the law need not be to meet the difficulty, for there ought to be laws regulating the drainage of all houses in the we have heard it hinted that such an official as an "Inspector of — A position which as the case present, must surely be one of the local government.

## POLICY IN EASTERN ASIA.

(*Pall Mall Gazette*)

It number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* is an article containing some important disclosures relating to the policy of Russia in China, and which ought to be carefully studied to take an interest in the pro- relations with those countries. It has been a great deal of speculation as to the authorship of this article, and it is usually the case when a writer whose wishes to be anonymous, is I. V. de Mars, the Secrétaire de l'Amour. It is variously attributed to the Amour, who is now in Paris, being in the Russian Government to be known as the anonymous author of remarkable articles on naval and French Foreign Office. What is the source of the article, the it contains all the appearing authentic, and throws quite a light on much that has been hitherto understood of the recent European enterprise in the far

question, explain it how the European Power which has influence in China and Japan is Russia, although both England and France have expended a great amount of blood and treasure to their prestige in these countries northern rival. The manner in which Russia set to work to obtain this is very clearly and circumstancially described in the article above referred to as a startling and most instructive for our diplomats of the Imperial Putative was, it appears, never employed by the Government of Petersburg to prepare the way of its designs. In 1854, after the beginning of the Crimean war, a Russian squadron appeared with the object of a treaty of friendship with the. Unfortunately a storm separated the other vessels of his fleet, and he had to land at Simoda, where he had been for some time by the impossibility of returning to Russia, in consequence of the rigorous blockade maintained by the Czar and his forces. He contrived, however, to force his banishment to good fortune by his staff and men he encamped in the vicinity of Petersburg, and used every means which his character of the Japanese could impress them with a sense of the power and resources of Russia and the necessity of alliance. Soon a notion spread that England was the dominant Power, that England was an insig- land and that the Emperor of Russia was the nephew of a man who was conquered by the Czar and confined to a distant island by his orders. He successfully performed his mission to St. Petersburg, and when he was soon after sent on another mission, of far greater importance than the first. During his stay he had quickly seized the whole territory constituting the basin of the Amoor, under the pretext of protecting his fleet, which was blockaded at the mouth of that river. Instructions were sent by the Chinese Government to protest against this aggression, which seemed to be imminent; however, did not want war, although he prepared herself for it by forming a fleet for the defence of her new home. An opportunity soon presented itself of attaining her objects by diplomacy, and England, France, and the United States determined to take active measures China in order to protect their commercial interests. Although Russia pretended to have no interest in the matter, she offered the demonstration which those were about to make, and sent Admiral Putative to St. Petersburg, to Pekin for that purpose. After Putative declared war, he signed a truce with the Chinese Government, and was to do with the assistance of the Chinese being much impressed by their moderation of the Czar's Government.

ment as compared with the imperious conduct of England and France, and the Allies being anxious to secure the services of a man who was evidently regarded with so much favour by the Chinese. The treaty which was signed at Tien-tsin between China and Russia gave to the latter Power the whole of the territory on the left bank of the Amoor, and also that on the right bank between the mouth of the river and the Ussuri, one of its chief tributaries. Another treaty concluded a short time after, gave a still more considerable slice of territory to Russia, with the right of navigation on all the tributaries of the Amoor. These two treaties were afterwards united into one, which was ratified at St. Petersburg on the 10th of September, 1858. Subsequently, the good offices rendered by General Ignatieff, the successor of Admiral Putative, to the Chinese Government, were rewarded by another treaty, that of the 1st of January, 1861, by which the Russian frontier, which in 1858 was situated at 62 degrees north latitude, on the shore of the Sea of Okhotsk, was brought down to the forty-second degree, in the Sea of Japan.

All these advantages were obtained by Russia, as we have seen, without shedding a drop of her blood and by a very trifling expenditure of money. She obtained them by using her influence on the Allies as means of obtaining concessions from the Chinese, and at the same time maintaining the influence by the evident preference which the Chinese showed to negotiate with her rather than with any other European Power. At the same time it must not be supposed that China is quite blind to the aggressive designs of her self-constituted friend and protector. In 1862 she refused the offer of Russia to help her against the Taipings, apparently because Russia claimed as the price of her assistance a further "rectification of frontier," which would have brought her to the Yellow Sea, at a short distance from Pekin. The chief object of this proposal was to place Russia in the immediate vicinity of the peninsula of Korea, which has long been the object of her cupidity. The possession of this territory would at once secure to her the maritime preponderance in the Yellow Sea of Japan, and place both Japan and China at her mercy. Meanwhile she is rapidly utilizing the rich acquisitions she has made in the north of China; not, as might be supposed, in order to replenish her scanty exchequer, but to provide the means for further aggressions. A fleet is about to be formed at Vladivostok, consisting of about thirty ships of war of various sizes, some of which will be extremely light and swift, and admirably suited for one of those *contre-mars* on our commerce which the *Times* congratulated itself in 1862 on having escaped.

The sympathy for Russia which Admiral Putative had so carefully fostered among the Japanese in 1854 is now as warm as ever, thanks to the skilful manner in which the Russians have conducted themselves. The acts of retaliation committed by England and France on the Japanese for outrages on Europeans have had little effect but to excite a strong feeling of hostility in the country. Russia has taken good care not to proceed to such extremities, but has shown her power in a more peaceful and far more effective way. She has established her legation, not at Yedo, but at Hakodadi, a small port which is quite insignificant in a commercial point of view, but which occupies a strong military position in the Strait of Sangan, at the entrance to the Sea of Japan. Here the Russian envoy, stationed on a mountain which overhangs the town, need fear no rivals, and awes the inhabitants by the size and magnificence of his residence, which looks like an entrenched camp, and contains within its walls a hospital and a school for young Japanese who wish to learn Russian. The town is constantly visited by Russian ships, the crews of which mix with the Japanese, who are already beginning to speak Russian with facility, and find the Russians as good customers as they are pleasant companions. An idea of the great power and resources of Russia in thus gradually forced, as it were, on the conviction of the Japanese, while at the same time every effort is made to persuade them of the friendly intentions of the Czartowicz. They are now in a position to be of great service to the Russian squadron which has long been the object of their attacks. This arrangement seems to prove that the Bill has met with opposition, but there is no chance that it will be carried through.

The cattle-plague appears to be on the increase, and with the Irish rebellion and the promised Reform Bill, forms one of the great difficulties with which the Government have dealt, or are trying to deal. A cattle-plague bill has been introduced and has become law, which forbids the transit of cattle on railways which will give extraordinary slaughtering powers to local authorities, and will throw the cost on the nation. This is a boon to the British farmer, or rather to the landlords, and has been fought against by free-trade members. Protests against this Bill are coming up from all sides, and there is just a chance that it will have to be repealed. In the meantime vaccination has been practically given up, and Mr. Worms is trying doses of arsenic with some success. Mr. Worms is not a cattle-doctor, but a gentleman of fortune, and his remedy is one tried with much success in the East in cases of cholera.

Mr. Gladstone has given the usual Parliamentary notice that he will introduce the promised Reform Bill on Monday, the 12th of March. By that time the House may or may not be furnished with the statistics in which the Bill is supposed to be based. The course will probably be to produce these after the introduction of the Bill, and fix a distant day for the second reading, when members shall have had an opportunity of understanding the architec- tural process by which the Ministers arrive at certain conclusions. This arrangement seems to prove that the Bill has not been very well considered, and it is probably introduced before the Budget merely to satisfy the Opposition, who are anxiously waiting for the Government to play what is generally thought to be its weakest card. It is thought that the Government is far from strong, notwithstanding the accession of so many comparatively young ministers.

One of the rumours of political life is that Mr. Austin Bruce may succeed Sir George Grey at the Home Office. Mr. Bruce is not a Scotchman as the name would indicate, but a brother of Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce, and a Welshman.

Another rumour is that the Chancellor of the Exchequer meditates the entire abolition of ten duties, but does not intend to touch the tea tax. His translation of *Homer* is only deferred, not abandoned, and will appear shortly, notwithstanding Lord Derby's success on the same ground.

The so-called Spiritualists have been dragged before the criminal courts at the instance of Mr. Soothern ("Lord Dundreary"), who accuses them of having published a malignant libel against himself in regard to his opposition to the Davenport brothers and their doings. A wealthy stock-broker, named Colman, is the chief culprit, and he has been fined 50/-, and Mr. Soothern has been obliged to admit that he once practised as a "Spiritualist" himself.

We believe that upwards of 300,000 have been privately subscribed for the Atlantic Telegraph Company, and that an appeal will probably be made to the public for 250,000/- more to complete the manufacture of new cables with a view to another attempt at submerging them during the present year.

The Prince Imperial—an infant actually and legally—has been made President of the Great International Exhibition to be held in Paris next year. The Emperor in announcing the appointment, said:—"My son is at present too young to take an active part in your deliberations, but he will at least have an opportunity of learning in good time to honour labour which secures the prosperity and splendour of the State."

A good deal of annoyance has been caused to some people in Yorkshire by the bestowment of the title of Viscount Halifax on Sir Charles Wood. The *Morning Post*, referring to the subject, which has been discussed in some other newspaper, observes:—"It is generally known that this title might have been revived in the person of the late Mr. Fountayne Wilson, one of the late representatives of the entire county of York; consequently it was but natural that

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speech in the House of Commons, and several other speeches. His voice is somewhat indistinct, and his manner, like his books, philosophical and calculated to make men like Mr. Gladstone think. His influence in Parliament judging by the effect he has already created, will be very considerable, and it is noticeable that he supports Mr. Bright. Among the gossip of the press we read, "Like the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Mill sits without his hat. He even sets the example of leaving it at the door—a proceeding which may be sensible, but is certainly singular, unparliamentary, and so far as I remember, unprecedented. The 'hat' is a parliamentary institution, and is supposed to assist in promoting freedom of debate. Has it been left to the distinguished political economist to give the House of Commons a lesson in good manners; and will our legislators at some distant day, out of compliment to Mr. Mill, sit uncovered, and like him, no more think of taking their beavers into the House with them than their great coats and umbrellas?"

A proposal has been made in Parliament by Mr. Gladstone—scarcely with his usual brilliant and happy oratory—to erect a monument in Westminster Abbey, at the expense of the country, to the memory of his influence on the obtaining of concessions from the Chinese, and at the same time maintaining the influence by the evident preference which the Chinese showed to negotiate with her rather than with any other European Power. At the same time it must not be supposed that China is quite blind to the aggressive designs of her self-constituted friend and protector. In 1862 she refused the offer of Russia to help her against the Taipings, apparently because Russia claimed as the price of her assistance a further "rectification of frontier," which would have brought her to the Yellow Sea, at a short distance from Pekin. The chief object of this proposal was to place Russia in the immediate vicinity of the peninsula of Korea, which has long been the object of her cupidity.

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The latest intelligence from America speaks of the Fenians as rampant at Pittsburgh, were they seem to have raised an immense excitement. They stock arms in the streets, make fiery discourses, and drink more fiery whiskey. A Fenian deputation headed by the notorious George Francis Train has requested an audience of the president, in order to lay before him, for serious consideration, alleged outrages against American citizens in Ireland. The deputation were to have the honour of being received at the White House on the 20th ult.

The condition of the Dorsetshire labourer has long been a by-word and a reproach, and a few weeks ago the Earl of Shaftesbury, a large landed proprietor in the county endeavoured to show that this condition had been fearfully understated, and that the Dorsetshire tiller of the soil was as well off as other agricultural labourers and better.

The Earl's letters, published in the *Times*, were considered conclusive, until they were answered by two of the labourers themselves, who showed that the Earl knew little about his own people, that he had understated their hours of work, and overstated their profits by one-half.

England has been somewhat startled by an announcement made by Dean Ramsay, the well-known Scotch writer, that four millions of sermons are delivered throughout the country in the course of the year.

They ought to do much good, and probably do, but those who are the best judges

of their beneficial effect.

Charlotte Winsor, the wholesale professional murderer of babies, has again been arrested, pending an application to the Court of Error.

The critics have been sadly disturbed by two successful actions for libel, one brought by a well-known actor—Mr. Emery—against a writer, who said that he was imperfect in his part on a first performance, the other brought by a musical critic, who is in the habit of giving benefit concerts, at which eminent singers sing for nothing against a journal which stated this fact, and commented upon it somewhat indiscreetly. Those journalists who strive to the best of their ability (their number is very small) to do their duty to the public by telling the truth, are fearful of incurring heavy fines, which are never pleasing to newspaper proprietors.

The English Opera at Covent Garden, after a very prosperous winter season, but very irregular payment of the performers, closed suddenly one Saturday night, much to the astonishment and disgust of the public assembled at the doors. English opera in England must be understood to mean the execution, often in a very inferior manner, of badly translated foreign operas. The entertainment has nothing national in its character, and it only serves as a foil to the Italian Opera, which it generally preodes.

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man, and one of the co-heirs of the last Lord Halifax, should have forwarded to the Royal Academy. The Tower of London will also be among the reliques of Old London brought under notice. It is expected that the congress will be attended, not merely by our own greatest archaeologists, but by many leading representatives of the science abroad.

Sir Moses Montefiore, though between seventy and eighty years of age, has just started on another mission of benevolence to the Holy Land, accompanied by Dr. Hodgkin.

Mr. Boxall, R.A., has been appointed director of the National Gallery, in the place of the late Sir Charles Eastlake, and the appointment is considered good, Mr. Boxall being an admirable judge of art and an excellent man of business.

Mr. Millais, R.A., during his stay in Rome, sent home a three-quarter size marble statue of "Leda and the Swan," said to be the last work of Michael Angelo. He gave 300/- for it in some old curiosity shop, and connoisseurs value it at several thousands.

The Duke of Northumberland has sent a petition to the House of Commons praying that the noble mansion which bears his name, and which has for more than two centuries belonged to the family, may not be levelled to the ground; the Board of Works having proposed its demolition on the plea of the necessity of a new approach from Charing Cross to the Embankment.

The number of new schemes for traversing London which will be brought into Parliament this year, according to one authority, greatly exceed our previous calculations. The sum wanted will be nearly five millions. It is difficult to understand how that amount will be expended, except, of course, a larger proportion is for buying out residents. Kicking out the poor goes for nothing. No provision is made for them, and we may really expect to see a disastrous state of things if a kind and wise legislature does not take it in hand. Here

is good Mr. Feabody, a foreigner, giving us sums that are perfectly fabulous (250,000), with the hope of teaching us to do the good and the wise thing; yet we are as careless as if the poor lived in clover. Some of the railway companies have coolly applied for permission to "underpin" houses without taking them.

As an instalment of the idea of having a bridge between Calais and Dover, the not impossible and impracticable notion has been mooted of having piers at Dover and Calais, each three miles long, on which trains could run out to sea, and so cause the real sea transit to be about fifteen miles which might, with boats of great speed, be accomplished in half-an-hour and five minutes.

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A project is said to be in Paris, soliciting permission from the Emperor to make borings, with a view of planning a tunnel under the straits of Dover.

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